

The revitalization of Alma Creamery is an example of how hard work, innovation, professional management and community support can create just such an opportunity.

Citizens throughout Kansas are working together to enhance the quality of life in their communities. Alma Creamery is a success story that demonstrates how teamwork and creative thinking can make a positive difference in rural America.

# WEST VIRGINIA RESPONSE TO HURRICANE KATRINA

## HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2005*

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of all West Virginians, our thoughts and prayers are with the countless many whose lives were disrupted by Hurricane Katrina. We extend our hope that families will be reunited, lives will continue to be saved and, in time, homes and towns will be rebuilt.

Once again, when it mattered most, West Virginians have risen to the occasion. Hurricane Katrina dealt us a big blow last week, and reaction to this disaster will probably be analyzed long after our people have recovered and our cities have been reconstructed. But it is with great certainty that I tell you no one will question the swift reaction of West Virginia, among the first states to roll up its sleeves and roll out its resources.

West Virginia has had its share of devastating floods in recent years and has learned how to rapidly organize its agencies following an emergency. Because of this, we were able to mobilize quickly in response to the calls of help from the governors.

Three West Virginia Air National Guard C-130 cargo planes flew in 200 evacuees from New Orleans late Saturday and early Sunday. Most of these evacuees are now housed at the Camp Dawson Army Training Site in Preston County. As of Monday morning, five C-130 Hercules cargo planes from West Virginia stand ready in Texas to bring back about 400 evacuees from the Houston Astrodome.

Six crews from our State's Air National Guard—four from the Charleston-based 130th Airlift Wing, which just two weeks ago was saved from the chopping block by the BRAC Commission, and two from the Martinsburg-based 167th Airlift Wing—have been sent to aid storm victims.

In addition to these ongoing National Guard efforts, our Secretary of Military Affairs and Public Safety Jim Spears, the National Guard and the State Police continue to work directly with the homeland security officials in Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi on formulating an action plan to assist victims who have lost their homes and are in desperate need of a place to stay.

Our citizens, too, have wasted no time in pitching in. They never do.

Marshall University has waived all application and late fees for students displaced by Hurricane Katrina who wish to take classes during the fall semester.

Marshall students, faculty and staff have begun making plans for a relief effort for victims of Katrina. Thunder Relief 2005 will be a joint effort in response to the devastation from

the disaster in Louisiana, Alabama, Mississippi and Florida. All donations raised from the effort will go to the American Red Cross. And at the medical school, Dr. Robert B. Walker is serving as a liaison officer for any medical personnel in hurricane-stricken areas who need to get Marshall's assistance in transferring patients or providing medical or other required public health resources.

In my hometown of Beckley, West Virginia, the Beckley Christian Ministerial Alliance, spearheaded by the Rev. David F. Allen, is collecting donations from area congregations through the month of September, with a presentation of the donations to the Red Cross scheduled for September 30.

There are other countless community and individual efforts going on across our state: Fish fries, barbecues and spaghetti dinners in small towns, bucket brigades at spotlights, donations from widows on fixed budgets, from children with piggy-banks full of carefully saved pennies. A drop in the bucket might only be a drop, but when it's all added up, our residents are giving a little hope to those who need it the most.

As a West Virginian, I am proud of the way both our State leaders and residents have responded to this disaster. Like any good neighbor, they opened their doors and their hearts to those in need. Our friends to the South can count on West Virginia.

# IN HONOR OF MAYOR DAN ALBERT

## HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2005*

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, there is a rumor in Monterey, California, that when the Portola expedition arrived there in June, 1770, Mayor Dan Albert was there to welcome them to the City. Mayor Albert has served the people of Monterey for so long that we forget that there was a time when he was not part of local government. He and his wife Joanne are also dear friends to me and my wife Shary. So I rise today to honor not only a public servant of the highest caliber, but also a friend of many years.

Dan Albert is serving his tenth two-year term as Mayor of Monterey. He has held the position of Mayor longer than anyone in Monterey's 225 year history. Mayor Albert was elected to the City Council in 1979 and elected Mayor in 1986. Prior to that time, he served on the City of Monterey Parks and Recreation Commission for several years. He is a former member and Chair of the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO), the one local position that he and I have both held.

But length of service is not everything, as my colleagues know. The value to a community comes through what it continues to receive from its longstanding public officials. By that measure, Dan Albert is worth his weight in gold. When first elected to the City Council, Monterey was in the economic doldrums. The fishing industry had disappeared, the tourism industry was weak and the military economic activity was being continually threatened. What a difference 25 years of real leadership makes. The BRAC Commission just reaffirmed the indispensable role that Monterey plays in

supporting the Defense Language Institute and Naval Postgraduate School. Monterey is the center of a thriving regional tourism economy. Its convention center, Window on the Bay Park, Aquarium, and coastal recreation trail all draw and enrich visitors from at home and abroad. And the City of Monterey is a national model for the participation of its citizens in neighborhood preservation and enhancement. All of these trends, and many others, have Dan Albert's quiet leadership at their center. It is a legacy that has made a permanent mark on Monterey.

Mayor Albert retired after 37 years from his position as teacher at Monterey High School. During his time at Monterey High he coached the Monterey High varsity football team for 23 years. Mayor Albert and his wife, Joanne, are lifetime residents of the city and both attended Monterey High School. They have four grown children and ten grandchildren.

Finally, I want to mention something that is not often said of politicians. Danny Albert is polite. He is always gracious; always friendly. He treats all those around him with dignity, respect and a charming humor. Which is not to say that he doesn't fight hard for his city. As a former football coach, he knows how to block, tackle, and score touchdowns for Monterey. But he does so with a style that preserves the conversation and promotes mutual respect and comity.

# TRIBUTE TO A LEADER, GEN. JOHN W. HANDY, COMMANDER, U.S. TRANSPORTATION COM- MAND AND AIR MOBILITY COM- MAND

## HON. JIM SAXTON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2005*

Mr. SAXTON. Mr. Speaker, it is my honor and privilege today to pay tribute to a leader and warrior, GEN John W. Handy, Commander, United States Transportation Command, USTRANSCOM, and Commander, Air Mobility Command, AMC. General Handy is retiring after honorably serving this great Nation for over 38 years. It has been a distinguished career.

General Handy was commissioned in the U.S. Air Force in 1967 and received his pilot wings in 1968. He has accumulated over 5,000 hours piloting just about every mobility aircraft in the U.S. Air Force, to include the C-7A Caribou, the C-130 Hercules, the C-141 Starlifter, the C-37 Gulfstream V, the C-9 Nightingale, the KC-10 Extender, and the Nation's newest mobility airlifter, the C-17 Globemaster III. His hands-on performance, sound judgment, and expertise made him an exceptional Air Force leader.

General Handy commanded the 21st Air Force at McGuire Air Force Base. He created and commanded AMC's Tanker Airlift Control Center. He also commanded two airlift wings and a maintenance squadron. He previously served as the Director of Operations and Logistics for USTRANSCOM; the Air Force's Deputy Chief of Staff, Installations and Logistics, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, DC; and Vice Chief of Staff, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, DC. It is clear and widely